



EcoSmart
HOME SERVICES

A Division of R. Pelton Builders Inc.

www.ecosmartct.com

RE: Raised Bill No. 7251

March 5, 2019

Greetings,

My name is Stephen Pelton and my wife and I own EcoSmart Home Services. Our company performs energy audits for Eversource and United Illuminating offering homeowners upgrades like insulation, high efficient HVAC upgrades as well as recommending and installing solar pv systems.

We are glad to see that the Bill 7251 proposes to extend the RSIP program by 100MW but the reality is there was no other choice. There wasn't enough time for the Companies to implement the new software and hardware needed to enact a tariff program nor was PURA anywhere near consensus on a tariff program that would replace NET METERING.

I would like to suggest that the Energy and Technology Committee can play a key role in giving guidance to PURA by passing a bill which permanently keeps net metering in place instead of changing over to an unproven, unreliable, confusing and hard to explain system. The federal ITC will be stepping down over the next few years, which will make it hard to sell solar, and if you add in a longer payback combined with a tariff scheme that is difficult to understand it will make it more expensive for solar companies to acquire new customers and harder for customers to justify the investment in clean power.

I do hope that the Committee will take steps to properly study the value of solar to the homeowners, the grid, the environment and the state's goals of reduced carbon emissions. It is hard to believe that such a study can be initiated, thoroughly researched and compiled in an easy to understand manner by Jan 1, 2020. If this bill is left unchanged solar pv will die in CT once the net metering program has ended. I do hope that the E&T Committee will look at this bill and make changes instead of just passing it like it is and simply kick the can down the road leaving continued uncertainty.

Thank you,

Stephen Pelton

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